

Docket No.: 062758-0047



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of	:	Customer Number: 20277
Makoto ONODERA, et al.	:	Confirmation Number: 4276
Application No.: 10/627,607	:	Group Art Unit: 2123
Filed: July 28, 2003	:	Allowed: January 25, 2008
	:	Examiner: Juan C. OCHOA
For: ANALYTICAL SHELL-MODEL PRODUCING APPARATUS	:	

**COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF
REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 104(e)**

Mail Stop Issue Fee
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

A Statement of Reasons for Allowance accompanied the January 25, 2008 Notice of Allowability regarding the above-identified application. Although Applicants agree that the claims are patentable over the art, entry of the Statement into the record should not necessarily be construed as any agreement with or acquiescence by Applicants in the reasoning set forth in the Statement.

Comments in the Statement regarding cited documents are not attributable to Applicants.

The discussion of the claims in the Statement differs from the actual language of the claims. For example, the Statement refers to "input means," points to the input/output device 101 of FIG. 1 and characterizes the means as "hardware, for converting a three-dimensional configuration model into an analytical shell-model." This characterization appears somewhat confusing and does not accurately reflect the actual language of any particular claim. The claims

are directed to apparatus. Claim 3 does refer to a "converting" in the preamble, but claim 1 does not. Also, the conversion recited in claim 3 is different from that recited in the Statement. Furthermore, each apparatus claim refers to "a reference-plate thickness size inputting means" as one element of the apparatus. As shown in application FIG. 1, the reference plate thickness designating portion is element 105.

In view of discrepancies between the Statement and the allowed claims represented by the illustrative examples discussed above, it is respectfully submitted that the allowed claims should be entitled to the broadest reasonable interpretation and to the broadest range of equivalents that are appropriate in light of the language of the claims, the supporting disclosure and Applicants' prosecution of the claims, without reference to the Statement of Reasons for Allowance.

To the extent necessary, if any, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

McDERMOTT WILL & EMERY LLP



Keith E. George

Registration No. 34,111

600 13th Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20005-3096
Phone: 202.756.8000 KEG:MWE
Facsimile: 202.756.8087
Date: April 8, 2008

**Please recognize our Customer No. 20277
as our correspondence address.**